

In the Claims:

1 1. (Currently amended) An arrangement for storing and
2 conveying a liquid comprising:

3 a first liquid container having an inlet opening and
4 an outlet opening;

5 a pipe-shaped first drain stub connected to said
6 outlet opening of said liquid container;

7 a first partial flange connected to an outlet end of
8 said drain stub;

9 at least one complementary flange adjoining and
10 complementing said partial flange so that said
11 complementary and partial flanges together form a first
12 circular flange;

13 a second circular flange connected to said first
14 circular flange; ~~[[and]]~~

15 a drain line connected to said second circular flange,
16 so as to establish liquid communication from said outlet
17 opening of said first liquid container, through said first
18 drain stub, said first partial flange, and said second
19 circular flange into said drain ~~[[line-]]~~ line; and

20 at least one additional liquid container arranged
21 adjacent to said first liquid container about a fictitious
22 upright axis extending vertically through a circle
23 centerpoint of said first circular flange, wherein an outer
24 diameter of said first circular flange is large enough so
25 that said first circular flange extends radially outwardly

26 from said upright axis to project under each one of said
27 first liquid container and said at least one additional
28 liquid container.

1 2. (Original) The arrangement according to claim 1, wherein
2 said first circular flange and said second circular flange
3 both have the same outer diameter and are arranged in
4 registration with each other on a common circle
5 centerpoint.

Claim 3 (Canceled).

1 4. (Currently amended) The arrangement according to
2 ~~[[claim 3,]]~~ claim 1, wherein said outlet opening is
3 located in a floor of said first liquid container at a
4 location offset from a vertical center axis of said first
5 liquid container toward said upright axis.

1 5. (Original) The arrangement according to claim 4, wherein
2 said first drain stub extends vertically between said
3 outlet opening of said first liquid container and said
4 first circular flange.

1 6. (Original) The arrangement according to claim 1, wherein
2 said at least one complementary flange comprises a blind
3 flange that does not have an opening communicating
4 therethrough and through said second circular flange into
5 said drain line.

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1 7. (Original) The arrangement according to claim 6, wherein
2 said first partial flange and said blind flange each
3 respectively have a plan shape of a respective sector of a
4 circle.

1 8. (Original) The arrangement according to claim 7, wherein
2 said plan shape of said first partial flange and of said
3 blind flange is respectively selected from the group
4 consisting of a one-quarter-circle sector, a
5 one-third-circle sector, a one-half-circle sector, a
6 two-thirds-circle sector, and a three-quarters-circle
7 sector.

1 9. (Currently amended) The arrangement according to claim 8,
2 wherein said first liquid container is the single only
3 liquid container connected to said second circular flange,
4 and wherein said plan shape of said first partial flange
5 and of said blind flange is selected from the group wherein
6 said plan shape of said first partial flange is said
7 one-half-circle sector, and said plan shape of said blind
8 flange is said one-half-circle sector, said ~~[[plane]]~~ plan
9 shape of said first partial flange is said one-third-circle
10 sector and said plan shape of said blind flange is said
11 two-thirds-circle sector, and said plan shape of said first
12 partial flange is said one-quarter-circle sector and said
13 plan shape of said blind flange is said
14 three-quarters-circle sector.

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1 10. (Currently amended) The arrangement according to claim 1,
2 ~~further comprising at least one wherein said~~ additional
3 ~~liquid container arranged adjacent to said first liquid~~
4 ~~container and having~~ has an inlet opening and an outlet
5 opening, and further comprising a pipe-shaped second drain
6 stub connected to said outlet opening of said additional
7 liquid container, and wherein said at least one
8 complementary flange comprises a second partial flange
9 connected to an outlet end of said second drain stub so as
10 to establish liquid communication from said outlet opening
11 of said additional liquid container, through said second
12 drain stub, said second partial flange, and said second
13 circular flange into said drain line.

1 11. (Original) The arrangement according to claim 10, wherein
2 said first and second partial flanges each respectively
3 have a plan shape of a respective sector of a circle.

1 12. (Original) The arrangement according to claim 11, wherein
2 said sector of a circle is respectively selected from the
3 group consisting of a one-quarter-circle sector, a
4 one-third-circle sector, and a one-half-circle sector.

1 13. (Original) The arrangement according to claim 10, wherein
2 said at least one complementary flange further comprises a
3 blind flange that does not have an opening communicating

4 therethrough and through said second circular flange into
5 said drain line.

1 14. (Currently amended) ~~The arrangement according to claim 10,~~
2 An arrangement for storing and conveying a liquid
3 comprising:

4 a first liquid container having an inlet opening and
5 an outlet opening;

6 a pipe-shaped first drain stub connected to said
7 outlet opening of said liquid container;

8 a first partial flange connected to an outlet end of
9 said drain stub;

10 at least one complementary flange adjoining and
11 complementing said partial flange so that said
12 complementary and partial flanges together form a first
13 circular flange;

14 a second circular flange connected to said first
15 circular flange;

16 a drain line connected to said second circular flange,
17 so as to establish liquid communication from said outlet
18 opening of said first liquid container, through said first
19 drain stub, said first partial flange, and said second
20 circular flange into said drain line;

21 at least one additional liquid container arranged
22 adjacent to said first liquid container and having an inlet
23 opening and an outlet opening; and

24 a pipe-shaped second drain stub connected to said
25 outlet opening of said additional liquid container;

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26 wherein said at least one complementary flange
27 comprises a second partial flange connected to an outlet
28 end of said second drain stub so as to establish liquid
29 communication from said outlet opening of said additional
30 liquid container, through said second drain stub, said
31 second partial flange, and said second circular flange into
32 said drain line; and

33 wherein said drain line is the single only drain line
34 connected to said second circular flange.

1 15. (Currently amended) ~~The arrangement according to claim 10,~~
2 An arrangement for storing and conveying a liquid
3 comprising:

4 a first liquid container having an inlet opening and
5 an outlet opening;

6 a pipe-shaped first drain stub connected to said
7 outlet opening of said liquid container;

8 a first partial flange connected to an outlet end of
9 said drain stub;

10 at least one complementary flange adjoining and
11 complementing said partial flange so that said
12 complementary and partial flanges together form a first
13 circular flange;

14 a second circular flange connected to said first
15 circular flange;

16 a drain line connected to said second circular flange,
17 so as to establish liquid communication from said outlet
18 opening of said first liquid container, through said first

19 drain stub, said first partial flange, and said second
20 circular flange into said drain line;

21 at least one additional liquid container arranged
22 adjacent to said first liquid container and having an inlet
23 opening and an outlet opening; and

24 a pipe-shaped second drain stub connected to said
25 outlet opening of said additional liquid container;

26 wherein said at least one complementary flange
27 comprises a second partial flange connected to an outlet
28 end of said second drain stub so as to establish liquid
29 communication from said outlet opening of said additional
30 liquid container, through said second drain stub, said
31 second partial flange, and said second circular flange into
32 said drain line; and

33 wherein said first liquid container and said at least
34 one additional liquid container are arranged adjacent one
35 another about a fictitious upright axis extending
36 vertically through a circle centerpoint of said first and
37 second circular flanges.

1 16. (Original) The arrangement according to claim 15, wherein
2 each one of said liquid containers has a cross-sectional
3 shape substantially corresponding to a sector of a circle
4 centered at said upright axis.

1 17. (Original) The arrangement according to claim 16, wherein
2 each one of said liquid containers has an outer wall
3 comprising a cylindrically curved convex wall portion

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4 extending along a cylindrical arc about said upright axis,
5 and at least one substantially straight wall portion
6 extending along a radial plane radiating from said upright
7 axis.

1 18. (Original) The arrangement according to claim 17, wherein
2 said substantially straight wall portion has a concave
3 depression therein.

1 19. (Original) The arrangement according to claim 17, wherein
2 each one of said liquid containers is respectively a tank
3 having a configuration of a one-half-cylinder, a
4 one-third-cylinder, or a one-quarter-cylinder.

1 20. (Withdrawn) The arrangement according to claim 15, wherein
2 each one of said liquid containers is respectively a tank
3 having a cylindrical configuration.

1 21. (Withdrawn) The arrangement according to claim 20, wherein
2 a diameter of said first circular flange centered on said
3 upright axis is not greater than a clear space
4 perpendicular to said upright axis between said liquid
5 containers, so that said first circular flange does not
6 extend radially outwardly from said upright axis to below
7 said liquid containers, and wherein each one of said drain
8 stubs extends at a downwardly sloping angle from a
9 respective connected one of said liquid containers toward

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10 said upright axis to be connected with said partial flange
11 thereof to said second circular flange.

1 22. (Original) The arrangement according to claim 1, wherein
2 said first and second circular flanges each have a complete
3 360° circular plan shape.

1 23. (Original) The arrangement according to claim 1, further
2 comprising a flange seal interposed between said first and
3 second circular flanges, wherein said first partial flange,
4 said flange seal and said second circular flange
5 respectively have throughholes therein aligned with one
6 another to establish said liquid communication.

1 24. (Original) The arrangement according to claim 23, wherein
2 said second circular flange has at least one additional
3 throughhole therein under said at least one complementary
4 flange, and wherein a total number of said throughholes in
5 said second circular flange determines a maximum total
6 number of liquid containers that can be connected to said
7 drain line via said second circular flange.

1 25. (Original) The arrangement according to claim 24, wherein
2 said second circular flange further has a plenum space that
3 interconnects and communicates all of said throughholes in
4 said second circular flange with said drain line connected
5 to said second circular flange.

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1 26. (Original) The arrangement according to claim 23, wherein
2 said at least one complementary flange comprises a blind
3 flange without a liquid communication throughhole therein,
4 and wherein said flange seal has no throughhole under said
5 blind flange.

1 27. (Original) The arrangement according to claim 1, wherein
2 said drain line is unbranched and is further connected to
3 a drain system.

Claims 28 to 34 (Canceled).

[RESPONSE CONTINUES ON NEXT PAGE]

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